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Tuesday October 8 1996

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# The Guardian

INTERNATIONAL

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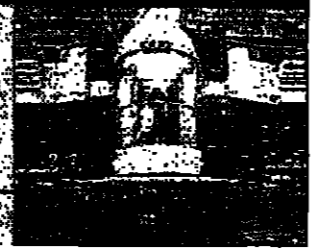
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## Did the Mafia torch La Fenice?

Inside story pages 4/5

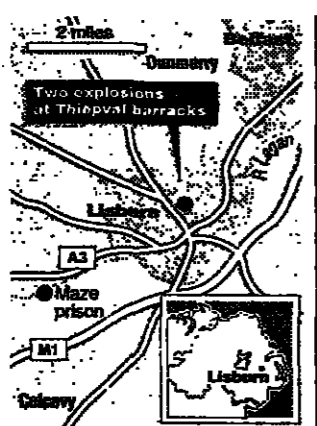


Education

## Reform and the lessons of history

G2 pages 10/11

# Bombs shatter truce in Ulster



**David Sharrock in Lisburn**

**T**WO large bombs detonated inside the army's headquarters in Northern Ireland yesterday, injuring 20 people. The blasts pointed to a full return to violence in the province, and a massive republican propaganda success on the eve of the Conservative Party conference.

The bombs — assumed to be the work of the IRA — exploded within 15 minutes of

each other in Thiepval barracks at Lisburn, a largely Protestant town eight miles south of Belfast.

Questions were being asked last night about a hugely embarrassing security breach for the army. An army spokesman said: "There were two vehicle-borne explosions within Thiepval barracks. The first was in a car park close to the administration building manned mainly by civilian staff. The second appears to have been designed to catch casualties being taken to the medical centre which was badly damaged."

An eight-year-old girl was

among the injured, five of whom were said to be serious. The bombs, with an estimated 250 to 500 kilos of explosives, were driven through the main entrance.

A nearby hospital neurology unit which looks after severely disabled adults was caught up in the blast.

The blasts were clearly heard at the Maze prison three miles away, where loyalist leaders met UDA and UFF prisoners.

They have withdrawn their support for the peace process and their UVF counterparts were expected to follow suit, although according to senior

sources this did not necessarily mean an immediate end to the loyalist ceasefire.

But a senior figure said last night that the first attack by republicans on a military target in Northern Ireland in more than two years would inevitably provoke retaliation. "IRA or whoever, it would be fantasy to think that loyalists could or would be prepared to sit idly by," the source said.

The Prime Minister condemned the bombing as "wicked beyond belief" and "barbaric". The action in planting two bombs was "unspeakable... it is clearly a

very serious development." Mr Major said it was not yet known who was responsible for the attack, but added: "If it was Provisional IRA, then clearly it is a very serious development indeed."

"If anybody thinks, whether it is a splinter group or the Provisional IRA, that they can bomb the British government out of the policy stance they think is right for Northern Ireland they are making a very serious and fundamental mistake."

Labour leader Tony Blair described the bomb attack as "an act of appalling unprovoked terrorism", and Liberal

Democrat leader Paddy Ashdown said it was "a very grave day for Northern Ireland and the peace process."

David Trimble, leader of the Ulster Unionists, appealed to loyalist paramilitaries "not to join the IRA in their wickedness" saying that they had occupied the moral high ground by maintaining their own ceasefire.

He asked of the Prime Minister: "How much more evidence do you need that the IRA ceasefire is over, and how long will it be before there's an adequate security response?" Republicans are likely to view the strike as a

show of defiance after the security forces' recent successes against the IRA on the mainland.

Two weeks ago, the Metropolitan Police arrested five IRA suspects and shot dead one man in dawn raids in west London and West Sussex. Police also recovered a massive haul of arms — including 10 tonnes of home-made explosives — which they said would probably have been used within days in massive lorry bomb attacks on the capital.

Bombers return to old targets, page 4

## TORIES IN TURMOIL

# Hamilton must step down now, say voters

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader?**

All voters	Yes	48	48
Tory voters	Yes	52	48

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	52	48
Tory voters	Yes	58	42

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	58	42
Tory voters	Yes	62	38

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	62	38
Tory voters	Yes	68	32

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	68	32
Tory voters	Yes	72	28

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	72	28
Tory voters	Yes	78	22

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	78	22
Tory voters	Yes	82	18

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	82	18
Tory voters	Yes	88	12

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	88	12
Tory voters	Yes	92	8

**Should voters in the Conservative Party be asked to elect a new leader if the current leader is not a member of the party and is not a member of the party?**

All voters	Yes	92	8
Tory voters	Yes	98	2

**NEIL** Hamilton, the Tory MP at the centre of the cash-for-questions row, should resign from Parliament, says a new Guardian/ICM opinion poll taken on the eve of this week's Conservative Party conference.

The results will embarrass Tory leaders facing a difficult week dealing with allegations of sleaze and divisions over Europe.

An overwhelming majority of voters believe it should be a criminal offence to be involved in close their outside income on the parliamentary register.

The poll also shows Labour has increased its lead over the Conservatives for the second month in running to 18 points on the adjusted figures, compared with 15 points in September.

John Major's handling of the sleaze crisis has not been tough enough, voters believe, and there is overwhelming public support for the source and size of all donations to political parties to be disclosed.

The mood among Conservative voters is almost as critical as the mood among the electorate as a whole, the poll reveals, leaving Mr Major with an uphill task as he tries to extricate his party from the sleaze allegations at Bournemouth this week.

In the poll, which was taken over the past weekend, voters were asked whether Mr Hamilton, the Conservative MP for Tatton, should stay or go. Nearly two thirds of all voters, 62 per cent, think he should resign, with only 22 per cent who think he should continue as an MP. A further 16 per cent were Don't Knows.

Even more damagingly for Mr Hamilton, a majority of Conservative voters, 48 per cent, believe he should quit, compared with

turn to page 2, col 1

**Tories in Bournemouth, page 5; Leader comment and letters, page 6; Hugo Young and Vernon Bogdanor, page 9**



Tory chairman Dr Brian Mawhinney arrives at a conference terrace reception last night, watched by an armed policeman. PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARGLES

## Redwood hesitates in backing Tories at polls

**Michael White**  
Political Editor

**T**HE Conservative Party was last night embroiled in a fresh eve-of-conference row over its stance on Europe, after the former leadership contender, John Redwood, apparently refused to endorse his own party in the forthcoming general election.

In an interview with BBC's Panorama, broadcast last night, Mr Redwood wistfully hesitated when asked whether voters wanting a referendum on the single currency should vote Tory or for Sir James Goldsmith's maverick Referendum Party.

He then replied: "Well, I think you have to ask me that nearer the time, when we see what the manifestos are of the major parties and what the views of the different candidates are."

The remarks infuriated party loyalists and some Euro-sceptics, following the announcement on the same programme by the former party fundraiser, Lord McAlpine, that he had thrown his weight behind Sir James by agreeing to chair the Referendum Party's first conference.

Mr Redwood later protested that his comments had been

taken out of context, and stressed that throughout the interview he had insisted the only way to avoid a federal Europe was by voting Conservative.

John Major, arriving in Bournemouth for the conference, responded angrily when asked about Mr Redwood's stance. "John Redwood is a Conservative MP. He is making it clear he is working for a Conservative victory at the next election and that is perfectly clear."

When pressed on the programme as to why he had not simply said "vote Tory", Mr Redwood said: "Of course, I will answer 'Vote for the Conservative Party', but it would be easier to explain why when we have seen the manifestos and the dispositions of the candidates."

There was further confusion last night in Bournemouth over the resignation of James Cran, the Euro-sceptic MP for Beverley, as unpaid parliamentary private secretary to the Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew. Some Tories claimed it was a protest over Mr Major's European policies. But officials were adamant that Mr Cran had signalled two months ago that he wished to spend more time nursing his constituency.

Europe remains the biggest

threat to Tory unity in the days ahead. Ardent Euro-sceptics, including the former Chancellor, Norman Lamont, will press their case for ruling out British membership of a single currency this side of 2002, convinced that, combined with tax cuts, it is an election winner.

Yesterday party officials found themselves forced to discuss whether activists should be expelled for "knocking on doors" for Sir James. It was a matter for local parties they said, after the party chairman, Dr Brian Mawhinney, had warily stressed that the Tories were "an inclusive party, not an exclusive party."

Mr Redwood accused Panoramans of going on "a fishing expedition" during a long interview, and of not showing viewers the actual question he had been asked.

"My position is clear. I support Conservative candidates; I work tirelessly in the Conservative cause," he said in a statement.

Labour's chief whip, Donald Dewar, said it was "astounding" that a recent candidate for the Tory leadership "should display such disloyalty when asked a simple question". It showed how split the party was on Europe.

Conference, page 5



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<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>G2</b>
				<b>Crossword 15; Weather 16;</b>
				<b>Radio 16; TV 16</b>





Laurie Briggs, aged 13, a talented golfer banned from a family tournament with his mother because he had been adopted as a baby, right



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS LAURENS

# Golf rules handicap adopted son



Unfair ways at Surrey's Burhill golf club, but a member plays on with the row brewing in the clubhouse

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

## Club bans mother and son from family contest

Sarah Boseley

IT IS hard to believe that even the boundaries who get their comeuppance in the pages of P.G. Wodehouse could have dreamed up such a wheeze. A mother and son have been banned from a family foursomes golf tournament in Surrey because the boy is adopted.

third round. Then somebody — he or she is lying low — complained that Laurie's origins were in breach of the rules. Mrs Briggs, who lives with her fellow champion golfer husband, also called Laurie, in Cheshire, received a letter from Dick Richards, the secretary of the Burhill golf club, near Walton on Thames. "Regrettably, I have to inform you that the conditions of entry to this competition demand that it is open only to mothers and fathers with natural sons and daughters and, as I understand it, Laurie is

adopted. On the entry form you will see that step-children are not permitted and it is my error that adopted children did not feature on the form: this will be corrected for next year." Mrs Briggs wrote to protest. In a further letter, the club captain replied: "Your deep disappointment touches me greatly but this event has always operated with the qualification that family pairs must be blood relations. I know that this can be hard to accept in circumstances such as yours."

seemed a little tense. "The secretary is away until Monday week," he repeated time and again. "Nobody else can comment." A large mahogany board bore the name of winners of the Family Foursome — a national competition for mother and son or husband and daughter pairs — since 1937. There they were, down the ages — 1963, G.A. Rowan-Robinson and Miss Pooch Rowan-Robinson, last year Mrs G. Warner and R. Warner. Not an adopted or stepchild anywhere.

divided," he said. "I personally think, adopted or not, a son is a son. I think it is a lot of fuss, but I preface that by saying that I don't know the ruling on it. "My personal view, without knowledge of the rules, is that adopted offspring should be permitted, but whatever anyone says without knowledge of the rules is a personal view."

## Hamilton 'must resign'

continued from page 1 40 per cent who think he should stay. Mr Hamilton had a majority of 15,860 over Labour at the 1992 general election, but the loss of his seat would wipe out the Government's majority of one at Westminster. The public verdict on Mr Major's handling of the crisis is nearly as harsh. Fifty-four per cent of the electorate think his handling, which he vigorously defended in a BBC interview with Sir David Frost at the weekend, was not tough enough. Two out of five Conservative voters agree. Only a third of the electorate as a whole and 52 per cent of Tory voters think Mr Major's handling was "about fair".

Ministers can take some comfort, however, from the finding that the public believes MPs of all parties are being paid by lobbyists, and not Conservatives alone. Asked which groups of MPs they thought were mainly being paid by lobbyists, 67 per cent of respondents said MPs of all parties, compared with 23 per cent who said "mainly Conservative MPs" and 2 per cent who said "mainly Labour MPs".

points from September), Conservatives 31 (down 1), Liberal Democrats 16 (no change) and others 5 (down 2). These figures would give Labour a majority of 191 Commons seats at a general election. The monthly unadjusted ratings are: Labour 54 per cent (up 3), Conservatives 27 (down 1), Liberal Democrats 15 (no change), and others 3 (down 2). The unadjusted Labour lead for October is 27 points (up 4 points).

## End persecution, says Fergie's dad

MAJOR Ronald Ferguson, the father of the Duchess of York, said yesterday that it was time to end the "vicious persecution" of his daughter after reports that the Queen was offering her £5 million to go into exile. After a week which has seen the duchess receive a battering from the tabloid newspapers, including the publication of transcripts of taped telephone conversations with her former psychic Madame Vasso, Major Ferguson said the constant harrying of his daughter was becoming ridiculous.

Yesterday the Sun newspaper reported that the Queen had offered the duchess £5 million to pay off her debts, set up home abroad and allow Prince Andrew to have custody of their two daughters, Princess Beatrice, aged eight, and Princess Eugenie, aged six. At the weekend it was reported that Princess Margaret had sent a letter to the duchess saying she had done "more to bring shame on the family than could ever have been imagined".

# Anti-Arafat Palestinians deny blasts

Duncan Campbell Crime Correspondent

A GROUP of middle-class, educated Palestinians who were integrated into English society were responsible for bomb attacks on the Israeli embassy and a Jewish organisation in London in July 1994, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday. They believed President Arafat was misguided in his attempts to come to any accommodation with the Israeli government and wished to hinder the process if at all possible.

ucts of the English undergraduate and postgraduate systems in which they gained knowledge, the Crown alleges, that helped them create the bombs. "All believed that Mr — now President — Arafat was misguided in his attempts to come to any accommodation with the Israeli government and wished to hinder the process if at all possible. It may be no coincidence that these bombs were set off the day after Mr Rabin and King Hussein of Jordan signed the Washington Declaration paving the way for peace between their two countries."

The woman who planted the bomb, whom the Crown claims is Mrs Zekra, was spotted by a diplomatic protection officer, PC Ian Duncan, parking an Audi car on Palace Green. When the officer approached her, she told him she had a present for someone. She had a Harrods bag and a "present-type" bag and said she had been asked to return in five minutes. She offered to leave the car keys with him. Within 10 minutes, the car exploded.

Shortly after midnight, the second bomb exploded outside Zeffour House, home of the Jewish Philanthropic Organisation for Israel and the Middle East, based in Finchley, north London. Three young occupants of a passing car were lucky to survive.

Ms Samar Alami, aged 30, of South Kensington, London; Javad Botmeh, aged 28, of Bloomsbury, London; and Mahmoud Abu-Wardeh, aged 25, of Putney, south London all plead not guilty to conspiring to cause explosions. They also deny possession of an explosive substance and firearms. Nadia Zekra, aged 46, married with two children, from Kensington, west London, is pleading not guilty to causing an explosion at the embassy.

"All the defendants are of Palestinian origin. All are well, even completely, integrated into English society and into the middle or upper-middle class," said Mr Calvert-Smith. The first three were produced.

The Crown claims that Mr Botmeh, a Leicester University electrical engineering graduate, with a wife and child in Leicester, was linked to the purchase of the cars used in the bombings. Ms Alami, who holds Bachelor and Masters degrees in chemical engineering, had a list of prominent English Jews at the address she shared with her twin sister and parents. The flat also allegedly contained a plan similar to the area round Balfour House and press cuttings about terrorist incidents. Ms Alami said she had nothing to do with it.

Abu Wardah had allegedly refused to answer questions when arrested. Names of the editors of Arabic newspapers who received letters about the bombs were allegedly found at his home. Mr Calvert-Smith also claimed that a terrorist arsenal was later found at a safe deposit unit at Acton. It was, he suggested, linked to Ms Alami, Mr Botmeh and Mr Abu Wardah.

The case continues.



The Israeli embassy after the bomb attack in July 1994

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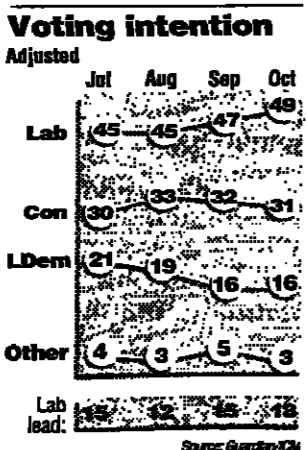
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Kamal Ahmed

MAJOR Ronald Ferguson, the father of the Duchess of York, said yesterday that it was time to end the "vicious persecution" of his daughter after reports that the Queen was offering her £5 million to go into exile.

Yesterday the Sun newspaper reported that the Queen had offered the duchess £5 million to pay off her debts, set up home abroad and allow Prince Andrew to have custody of their two daughters, Princess Beatrice, aged eight, and Princess Eugenie, aged six.

At the weekend it was reported that Princess Margaret had sent a letter to the duchess saying she had done "more to bring shame on the family than could ever have been imagined".

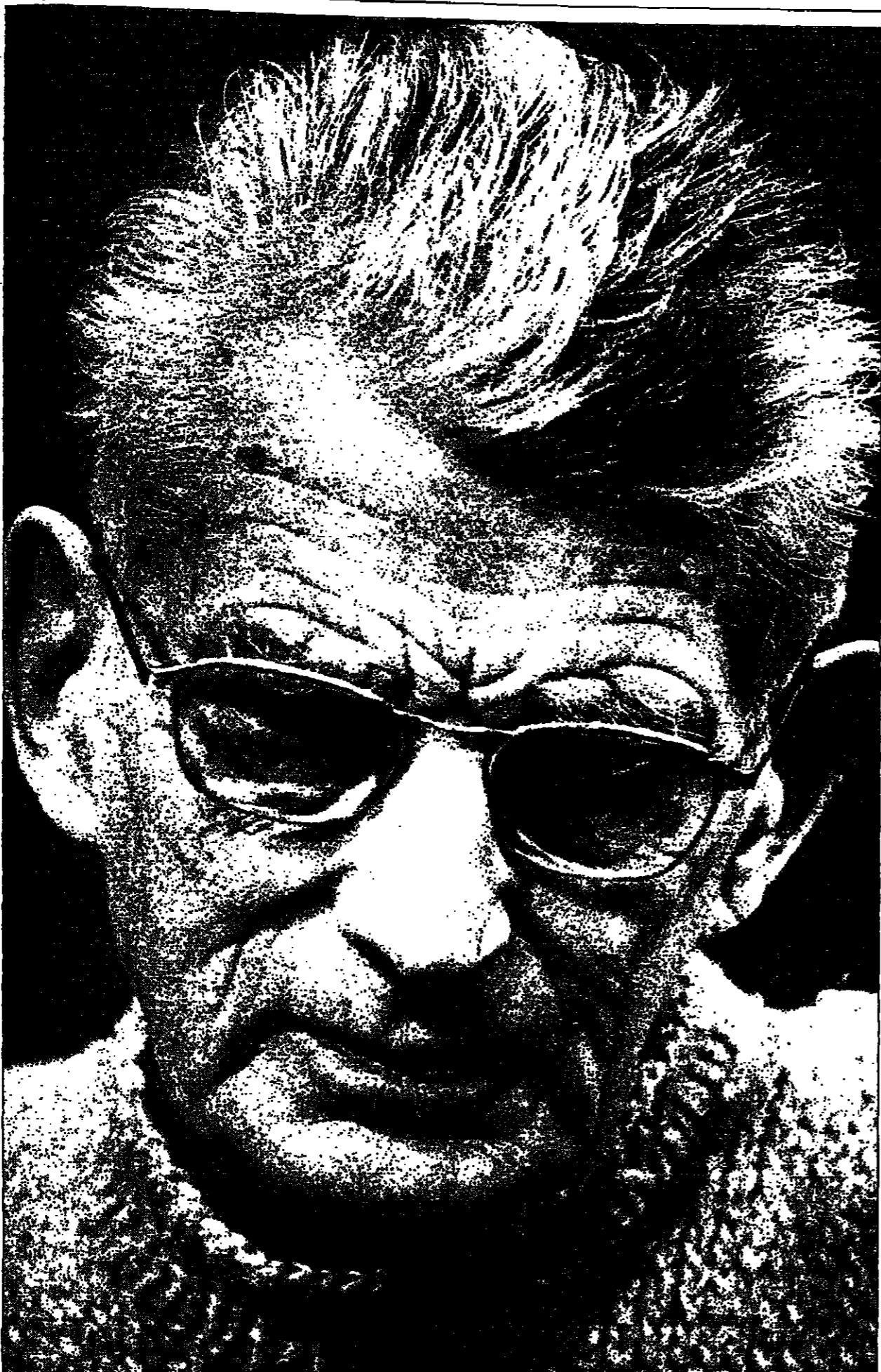
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# Moscow urges caution but hints at possibility of more flexible stance Nato expansion may sink arms pacts, Lebed warns

John Palmer in Brussels

**R**USSIA'S security chief, Alexander Lebed, warned NATO yesterday that arms control agreements with Moscow might be threatened if the alliance opened its door to new members in central Europe too quickly.

Speaking to NATO ambassadors in Brussels, General Lebed suggested that Russia should be given a legally binding partnership agreement with the alliance, giving it a direct say in the timing of any expansion.

His presentation of Russian policy contained both warnings of a possible rupture in post-cold war co-operation — including non-implementation of the Start-II treaty — and hints that a more flexible stance might be possible in Moscow.

"It is NATO's business what NATO decides. Whatever NATO does, Russia is not going to go into hysterics," Gen Lebed told a press conference last night. But he counselled caution over the pace of enlargement, saying: "The main thing is not to hurry or you may trip up."

During day-long meetings at NATO headquarters, he said he personally believed that expansion posed no security

threat. But cold war attitudes and suspicions still influenced Russian public opinion.

The Russian parliament believed NATO was rushing ahead too quickly. Deputies might reject future arms control agreements and even refuse to ratify existing agreements, such as those reducing strategic nuclear and chemical weapons. "It will not be possible to have the Start-II treaty. We are also worried about all the other treaties," he warned.

Several times in the discussions Gen Lebed, who was wearing a smart civilian suit, pointed out that "Russia is half of all of Europe". Referring to NATO's plan to approve the start of enlargement negotiations with the first central European countries next year, he insisted: "Every step must be calculated. Take stock, take stock and take stock again."

"I have not changed my opinion about NATO expansion and Russian security," he told journalists. "But I proposed today to put off this question... and let the next generation, which is less scarred by the attitudes of the cold war, decide."

At a dinner for Gen Lebed last night, NATO ambassadors were inquiring whether Russia's objections to enlargement were fundamental or



Alexander Lebed: 'Start-II treaty will not be possible'

had more to do with timing and the need for a prior agreement between Moscow and NATO on the joint management of European security issues.

NATO's secretary-general, Javier Solana, told journalists: "We have had a very civilised and very rational discussion and we have both agreed that we must continue to talk through these differences of view."

Both Mr Solana and NATO diplomats insisted last night that Gen Lebed had not adopted a threatening tone or used emotional language. For

his part, Mr Solana asked Moscow for the same right of prior consultation about its policy as NATO had offered Russia. He suggested the appointment of a NATO military officer to liaise with Russian defence staff, to match the presence of a Russian general at NATO's military headquarters.

NATO diplomats were clearly uncertain how to weigh up Gen Lebed's low-key presentation, and apparent acceptance that enlargement was no real threat to Moscow, with his explicit warning of an anti-western popular reaction in Russia itself. Nor did he spell out in any detail what kind of legally binding partnership agreement Moscow wanted with NATO before it could accept enlargement.

Senior NATO sources last night ruled out any reconsideration of the principle of enlargement or the likely start of negotiation with the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and probably Slovenia, on their membership applications next year. "We want to proceed on three fronts in tandem: the refocusing of NATO's role in the world, our relationship with Russia, and enlargement," one diplomat said. "Hopefully we can decide all these in the summit planned next summer, to which President Yeltsin may be invited."

# Company starts worldwide chase for \$1,000,000,000,000 worth of debt

Dan Atkinson

**B**ANKS and the tax authorities soon give up the ghost. It's simply too difficult to trace the money they are owed, and nigh impossible to get it back if they do. So step forward Martin Kenney, president of Interclaim.

In the old days, Mr Kenney would be a soft bruiser who could, as they say, handle himself. He might pop round for what was called a friendly chat. For Mr Kenney is a debt collector.

But as criminals get more sophisticated, so do those seeking to regain their illegally built empires. Inter-

claim, based in Dublin, is targeting \$1 trillion of drug money, missing tax payments and the proceeds of fraud stashed in offshore accounts around the globe. That's \$640 billion.

The company's scheme is simple: pay the organisation which lost out a fraction of the debt and take it over. It will then chase the debtor via all legal means. It believes it is the world's first global debt collector.

Fraudsters and debt absconders will be hit without warning by simultaneous court action in different jurisdictions to freeze their assets and disgorge the money they owe. Mr Kenney said: "The scale of this problem is huge."

Of the \$1 trillion in dubious offshore deposits, half — about \$500 billion — represent either drug money or the proceeds of tax evasion. The remainder is the proceeds of serious fraud, economic crime or deliberate refusal to pay legitimate debts. Mr Kenney's figures are based on calculations by the US central bank the Federal Reserve.

Favourite offshore locations included Panama, the British West Indies, Gibraltar, the Channel Islands and Isle of Man, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Mauritius. A side effect of Interclaim's courtroom activities could be a weakening of bank secrecy laws in many of these havens.

Banks and other financial

institutions have neither the expertise nor the inclination to pursue the modern international swindler. They prefer to write off bad debts. Tough banking rules in developed countries such as Britain actually encourage this approach, said Mr Kenney, forcing banks to declare bad loans as soon as possible.

Interclaim, he said, will buy up hundreds of millions of dollars of bad loans for between 1/3 per cent and 6 per cent of their face value, and in some cases will work with the creditor on a 50-50 basis.

Given that many fraudsters and swindlers publicly plead poverty, Interclaim expects them to settle quickly and quietly to avoid exposure.

# Beckett poem throws light on dark period

Dan Glaister on a literary discovery

**A**N unpublished poem by Samuel Beckett, unearthed in a leather-bound notebook, is to be published to coincide with National Poetry Day on Thursday. The short poem, *One Dead of Night*, was written in 1977, 12 years before he died.

"It struck me as a poem that should be published," said James Knowlson, who revealed the existence of the poem when researching his recently published biography, *Damned To Fame: The Life of Samuel Beckett*. "It is certainly good enough. It's a lovely little evocation, which is very visual."

Beckett, according to Mr Knowlson, wrote numerous short poems, called *Mirritonnades* in 1977 and 1978, describing them as "gloomy French doggerel". At the time he was ill with an enlarged prostate, although the condition had stabilised.

The poem reflects Beckett's literary interests at the time, when he was rediscovering many classic texts including Shake-

SAMUEL BECKETT  
ONE DEAD OF NIGHT

one dead of night  
in the dead still  
he looked up  
from his book  
  
from that dark  
to pore on other dark  
  
ill afar  
taper faint  
the eyes  
  
in the dead still  
  
ill afar  
his book as by  
a hand not his  
a hand on his  
faintly closed  
  
for good or ill  
  
for good and ill



Samuel Beckett (top) and the poem and caricature in Poetry Review PHOTOGRAPH: NOBBY CLARKE

speare and Dante. "He was going back to a lot of the old chestnuts," said Mr Knowlson yesterday.

In an extract from Mr Knowlson's biography, reprinted in the *Poetry Review*, he says that the poem's brevity and apparent playfulness do not detract from their seriousness.

"Although they have been largely ignored by critics writing about Beckett's work, they offer startling insights into the darkness of his private moods at this time," he writes. The poem was not included in Beckett's *Collected Poems 1930-1978*.

The poem may have been written for Jim Lewis, a cameraman Beckett worked with on several

television plays. "Beckett was very generous," he said. "He liked to give scraps of paper to people."

While Mr Landon has suggested that the poem foretells Beckett's 1982 work *Nacht und Träume*, Mr Knowlson points to other possibilities. "Several texts came out of this, possibly including *Stirrings Still* and *Ohio Impromptu*," he said. "I can only surmise that by the time it came to publish the anthology, he felt that elements of the poem had been used for other works."

Mr Landon suggested that the poem did not rank among the greatest works of the author of *Happy Days* and *Endgame*. "There are many things by Samuel Beckett but not all of them are on the same level. That is not to say it is not good. I suppose he never considered it important enough," he said.

Beckett, who once worked as a secretary to James Joyce, was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1969 and was hailed as the person who brought absurdism to the public eye. His best-known work, *Waiting For Godot*, was famously described as the play in which nothing happens twice.

His plays have been seen both as Christian allegories and nihilistic parables. Beckett himself always refused to explain them, saying only: "I meant what I said."

# Model freed from Indian jail to campaign against drugs

Vivek Chaudhary

**A**MODEL who served two years in an Indian jail for possession of drugs said yesterday that she now plans to campaign against drugs and take up social work.

Samantha Slater, aged 25, who was released last week

from Trissur prison in the southern state of Kerala, said prison had transformed her culturally and spiritually.

She added: "I began to read a variety of subjects, including religion and spiritualism. I don't think I have lost anything [in life]. I want to do social work, especially anti-drug campaigns."

She was arrested in January 1994 for carrying two ounces of cannabis resin in her bra while on a motorbike tour of southern India with her boyfriend. She was sentenced to 10 years in prison; her boyfriend, Andrew Heston, was jailed for three years and is still in jail.

Ms Slater said it would be difficult to return to wearing western clothes after wearing a sari in jail.

While in prison she learnt Malayalam and taught English to the inmates.

"I turned vegetarian in jail and intend to remain one." She added that her regular meal in prison was banana curry and rice.

**A special retail index, published last June, gave the latest national trading ratings. The top four locations, judged by turnover and by profitability per square foot, were MetroCentre, Meadowhall, Lakeside and Merry Hill, in that order. Oxford Street was down at No 11.**  
Paul Barker on why the future is mall-shaped

# G2 cover story

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الجمهورية العربية السورية

Tuesday October 8 1996

# Major pins hopes on workfare plan to cut dole budget

Michael White  
Political Editor

JOHN Major last night set the scene for the last Conservative conference before the general election when he placed workfare at the centre of a raft of hard-line social policies designed to win back lost voters.

Hours after ministers in London put the finishing touches on the expansion of two pilot workfare projects to five big cities — and up to 75,000 long-term unemployed — the prime minister told the annual agents hall that he is aiming to achieve "a sea change" in the level of welfare spending.

Lady Thatcher drew back from attacking alleged "shirkers" and "fiddlers" working in the black economy, even though significant sums — 5500 million over three years, officials claim — could be saved in search of the "lean welfare machine." Ministers now believe they understand the phenomenon well enough

to take the gamble that the package will force people to choose between staying on the dole and joining community programmes, and leaving the dole in order to go on being available to moonlight.

In both 1986 and 1991 Bournemouth was the setting for pre-election "springboard" conferences in advance of Tory election wins. In far more difficult circumstances, Mr Major hopes to pull off the trick a fourth time. In addition to co-ordinated attacks this week on Labour as both unprincipled and disloyal to its core voters, ministers plan to step up tough social policies aimed at precisely the "hard working class" Jack Straw is targeting.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, told the Bournemouth Echo he plans to announce a package of measures against paedophiles at the conference today.

A national register, stronger post-prison supervision, restricted rights of movement and employment where children are involved, plus DNA testing of prisoners, will be buttressed by mandatory life

sentences for second serious offences against children in the Criminal Justice Bill to be enacted before the election, Mr Howard told the paper.

Mr Major pledged to create "an affordable welfare system for the 21st century". After years when ministers have ducked US-style workfare as risky and expensive, he told the agents that meant cutting the growth in welfare spending to below that in the economy as a whole.

A behind-the-scenes tussle is yet to decide whether Peter Lilley or Gillian Shepherd will make the detailed statement to the conference on what Mr Major called a "contract for work".

In the long-term jobless will get 13 weeks of training and 13 weeks of community work if they have not found a job. After that they will — if still unemployed — return to their previous dole level.



Harriet Harman and defector Ted Shelton, a former council leader in Norfolk, in a media scrum on the promenade

PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN ARGLES

## Ted who? Confusion beside the seaside as Labour unveils its latest defector

LABOUR tried to steal the Tory thunder yesterday by unveiling a Defectors Hotline for dissident Conservatives — and a new defector, writes Michael White.

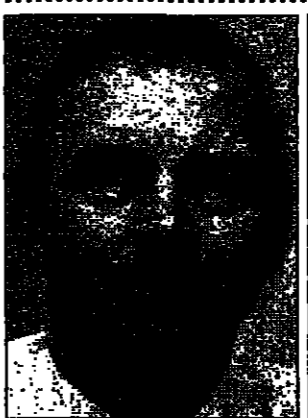
So many Conservatives are coming over to Tony Blair's side that they need a support network, Labour officials claim. Ted Shelton, twice leader of Breckland council in Norfolk, said yesterday he had agonised for three months.

The visit of shadow health spokesman, Harriet Harman, to greet Mr Shelton outside the centre where the Tory conference

opens this morning was not without problems. The car bringing Mr Shelton delivered him to the wrong spot and waiting Labour visitors endured a mixture of curiosity and hostility from promenaders. There were cries of "What's she doing here?" and "You've had

your conference" directed at Ms Harman. Mr Shelton's only claim to national fame is as constituency agent to former chief whip Richard Ryder. But when he finally arrived in a tourist mini-train, there was a media scrum. The 55-year-old from Der-

## Delegates offer conference advice



PETER DAVIS spent last week at the Labour conference, eavesdropping on disgruntled left-wingers brought sharply into line. "I attended it two years ago, and the difference is astonishing. They are desperate to win." Mr Davis, chairman of Croydon South Conservative Association in south London, is looking for moderation on the issues threatening to divide his party this week. "Like most of the party, I support the Government line on the single currency. I come from the business sector and have mixed feelings about Europe. I'm convinced a wait-and-see policy is right." His major interest is continued education reform. "Tony Blair has switched tack and is following in our wake. But there is more to be done there: we need to be sending adequately educated young people to work in industry, which doesn't seem to be happening now." But the real issue this week is winning the election. "The one thing I hope does come to the fore is planning for the years ahead: new policy ideas. We are a radical reforming party, and I'd very much like to see that continue." Will sleaze sully the party atmosphere? Mr Davis dismisses the idea. "These are isolated instances of people acting irresponsibly. The membership is not sympathetic to Neil Hamilton, I don't think it will affect the party mood." Clare Longrigg



BOURNEMOUTH needs to answer a simple question for Peter Bone, the man who hopes to be MP for Putney, West Yorkshire, next year. "The doorstep message we're getting from people is: Come on, fire our imagination. Give us positive reasons to go out and vote Conservative again." Waverers who need re-igniting say "well, you've made a mess of things now, haven't you? But when you press for specifics, they're not unhappy about our record." Top of Mr Bone's agenda is safeguarding the United Kingdom constitution, and allied concern about gradual European integration and the single currency. "Opinion within the party divides about 80-20. That's also the case on the doorsteps. We need to keep talking, to keep in the negotiations to protect Britain's interests. But we must have the safeguard of a referendum, and that the Conservatives guarantee." He wants more new initiatives, and fresh commitments to abolish taxes, such as capital gains and inheritance. "I would like to see a bold fiscal move each year, with a clear programme set out in advance. And, maybe a bit of a radical idea, I would like to see a public commitment that if there's a world recession and we cannot keep to the programme, we would go to the country, explain the changed position and seek re-election." Martin Wainwright

## Douglas Hogg Agriculture Minister

### Progress report

John Major demonstrated he had a sense of humour by sending the dour and prickly Mr Hogg on a charm offensive to persuade European Union partners to relax the conditions for lifting the beef export ban. Unsurprisingly, he failed in his mission. It has been a miserable year for Hogg. His ponderous handling of the BSE scare added to the sense of crisis. He compounded this by taking about mass slaughter of cattle, well before it became official policy. In an attempt to restore confidence, the number of cattle earmarked for slaughter grew until last month, when the Government changed its mind again. Result: complete muddle, with little prospect of end to the beef ban.

### Today's performance

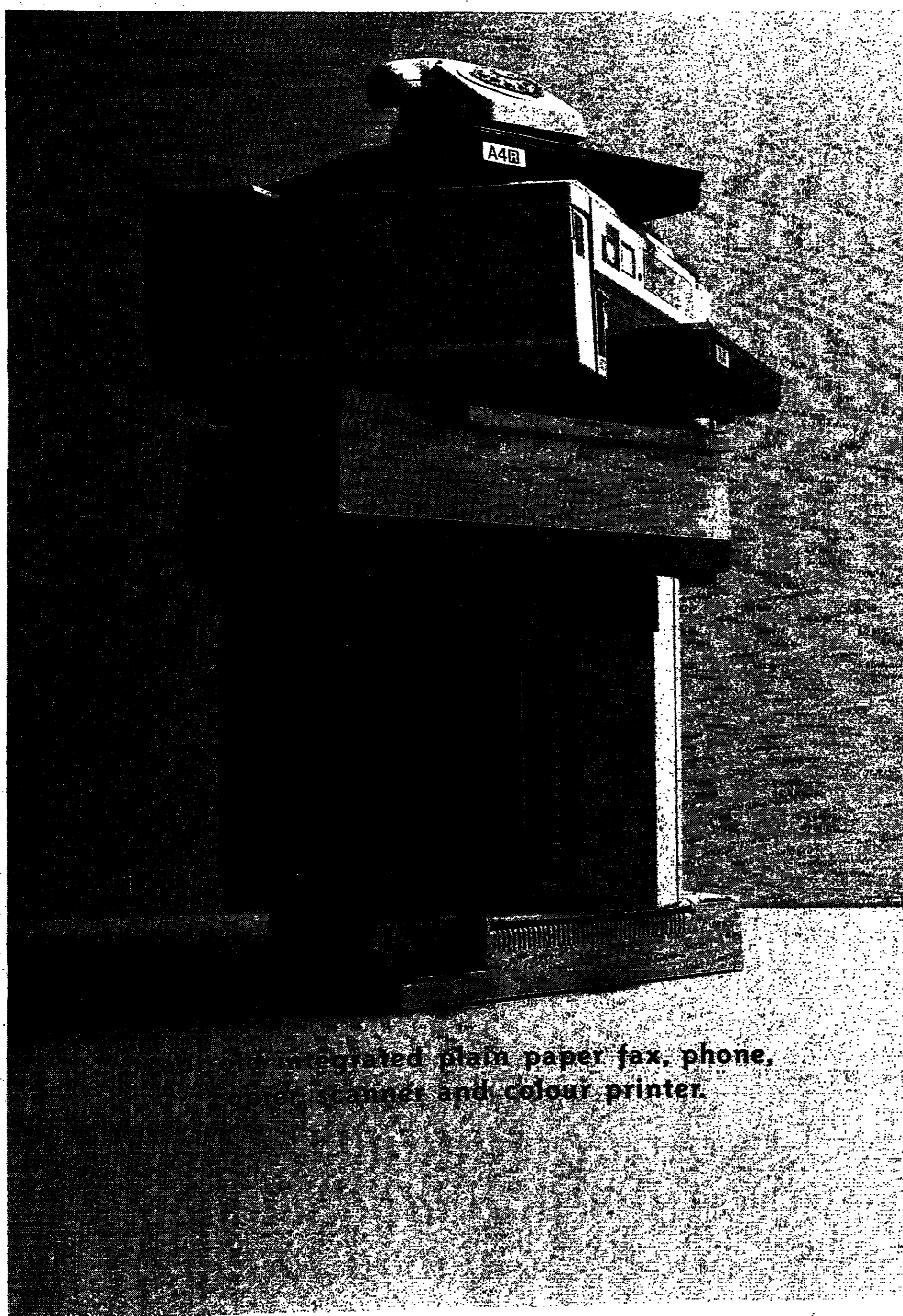
Since impossible to get through the speech without mentioning BSE, Hogg's tactic is to blame the European Union for intrusiveness, which will please a Tory conference. He has to help that conference managers keep the rate harmonist away from the microphone.

### Prospects

He can take comfort from fact that it is rare for conference to express disapproval with anyone other than liberal-leaning home secretaries and pro-European chancellors and foreign secretaries. As for long-term prospects, he was predicted by some as a candidate for the chop in the ministerial reshuffle but survived. Safe until the next election, when chances are the whole ministerial team will be reshuffled.

### Today's business

- Agriculture (speaker, Douglas Hogg)
- Balance of the Union (Michael Forsyth and William Hague)
- Knockabout speech by party chairman, Brian Mawhinney
- Question and answer session on health with Stephen Dorrell
- Home affairs (Michael Howard)



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goes home

rawl charge

Italy's ex-Communists are feeling the cold wind of graft inquiries, writes John Hooper in Rome

# Left attacks Clean Hands

**T**HE prosecutors behind efforts to unearth corruption in Italy are again under attack. But this time the attack is not from the rightwing Silvio Berlusconi and his allies, but from the former Communists, the real power behind the centre-left government.

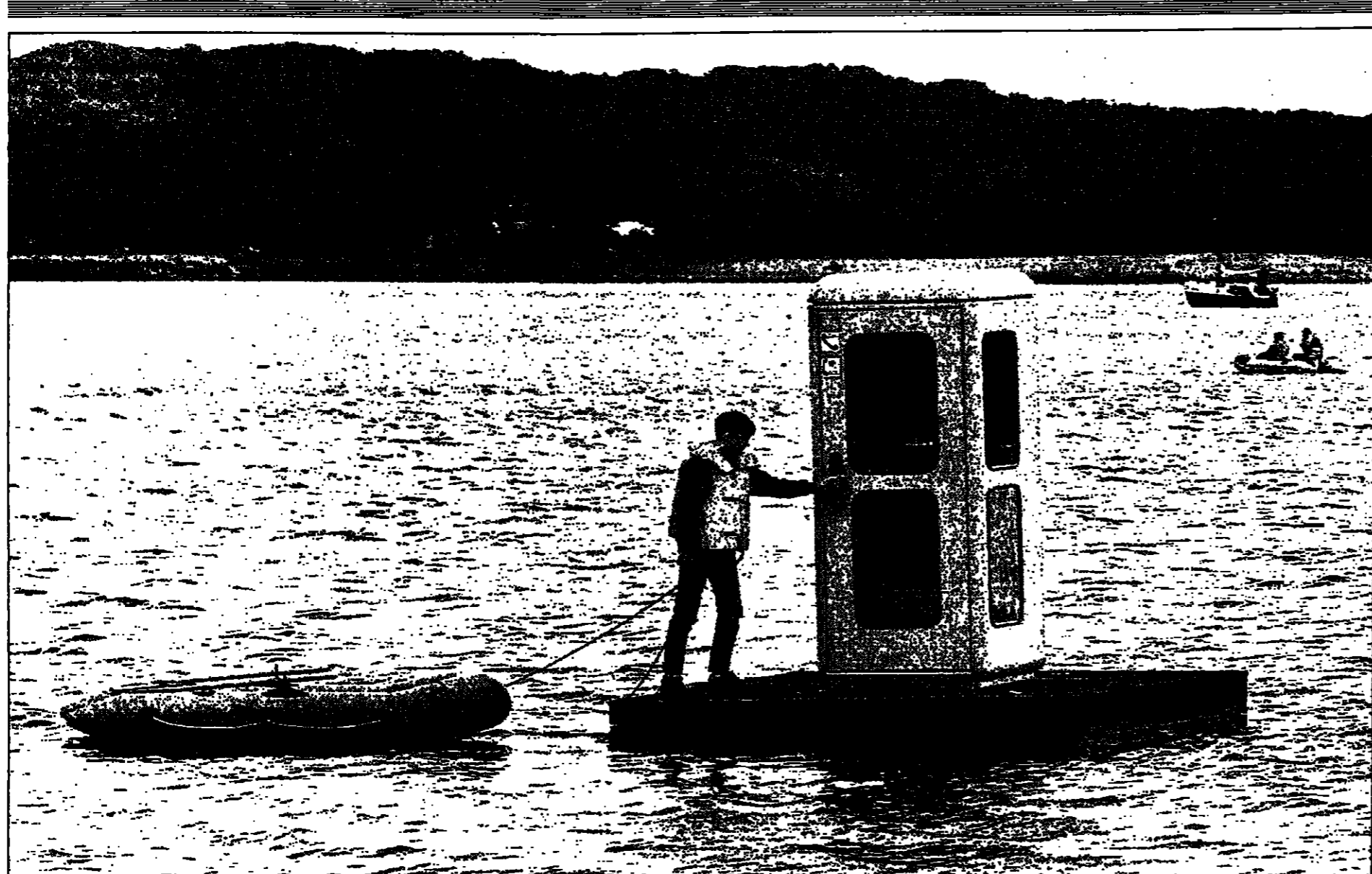
"It was thought — wrongly — that a group of Milanese prosecutors could resolve the problem of corruption. We are seeing that this is not the Italy's judge prosecutors are its only hope of a cleaner society

Each of Italy's three governments in the past two and a half years has sooner or later turned its fire on the Milan prosecutors, though Lamberto Dini, Italy's last prime minister, fired his justice minister for doing so.

Underlying the controversy are genuine civil liberties issues which have become impossible to disentangle from the political manoeuvring.

**Cesare Salvi's criticisms fit into a repetitive and suspicious pattern**

had already spoken of splitting judges and prosecutors into two separate careers. But for the moment, given the apparent inability of both



Crossed lines... A puzzled young German tries to enter a floating phone box on the River Schiel, but it is only part of a project by the artist Mona Strehlow. PHOTOGRAPH CHRISTOF STACHE

## Cult watchers await verdict

**A**LEX DUVAL SMITH in Paris

**F**RENCH campaigners against cults are hoping for legislation against "mental manipulation" if the country's scientific leader is found guilty today of the involuntary manslaughter of a follower who died after jumping from a 12th floor window.

After a 10-day trial, a court in Lyon will decide whether Jean-Jacques Mazier had a role in the 31-year-old disciple's suicide in 1988. It will also rule on fraud charges against 23 other leading members of the organisation.

## Holocaust author damns Mitterrand

Wiesel is finally shocked into believing that his old friend's Vichy past was part of a pattern, writes Paul Webster in Paris

**E**LIE WIESEL, the Nobel peace prize winner who acted as an international guarantor of Francois Mitterrand's good faith on his attitude towards the Holocaust, has rounded on the late Socialist leader.

The Holocaust historian, who also writes of a betrayal by Mr Mitterrand's adviser, Jacques Attali, said that he would have been even harder on Mr Mitterrand were he still alive.

people and to put them on trial; his custom of secretly laying a wreath on Pétain's tomb; his links with former [fascist] Cagoulards; his determination to hide part of his life and his habit of surrounding himself with Jews — all this must have an explanation."

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## Taliban face the valley of death

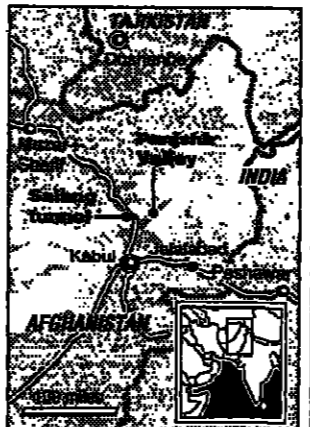
**J**ONATHAN STALEE in Gulbaha, Afghanistan

**T**ALIBAN militias used helicopters, tanks, and artillery in a show of force at the mouth of the Panjshir valley yesterday in spite of a warning from the northern Afghan warlord General Rashid Dostam that he might join forces with his rival Ahmed Shah Massoud against them unless they called a ceasefire.



A front-line Taliban fighter loads a rocket launcher

reinforce other Taliban who occupied it at the weekend. Mortars and tank rounds were fired over the mountains towards Massoud positions in reply to incoming rounds. A Taliban helicopter flew overhead. We heard the whine of two jets but it was not clear which side they were on.



**The La Fenice opera house, in which Rigoletto and La Traviata had their premières, may have been reduced to ashes by the Mafia itself.**  
John Hooper in Venice

### News in brief

## Sabotage disrupts German railways

**A**NTI-NUCLEAR militants were suspected of sabotaging rail services across much of northern Germany yesterday by hoisting grappling hooks across overhead power lines.

## Kuwait voters lured by food

**KUWAIT** men voted in parliamentary elections yesterday, tempted by gourmet food for candidates as about 200 women demonstrated for political rights in the Gulf state.

## Corsican group claims bomb

**C**ORSICAN separatists claimed responsibility yesterday for a bomb attack on the prime minister Alain Juppé's mayoral office in Bordeaux, raising fears of an offensive in mainland France.

## Bank to fight Nazi loot claim

**S**WITZERLAND'S biggest bank yesterday ruled out an out-of-court settlement of a \$20 billion (£13 billion) law suit filed in New York by a Holocaust survivor who says Swiss banks may be hiding her family's wealth.

## Qatar 'aiding Bahrain's foes'

**B**AHRAIN'S foreign minister yesterday accused Qatar for the first time of directly backing Shi'ite opponents of Bahrain's Sunni-dominated government.

## Inkatha blow to constitution

**T**HE Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelez's Inkatha Freedom Party pulled out of South Africa's constitutional negotiations yesterday, dashing hopes of national consensus on the blueprint for post-apartheid rule.



Buthelez: no consensus on post-apartheid rule

## Seoul rejects 'spy' links

**S**OUTH KOREA denied yesterday that a United States citizen held in North Korea on spying charges was working for Seoul.

## Correction

**I**N THE Guardian of August 22 it was reported that Mr Abduljawad, chairman of Oilinvest International NV, had been arrested. We should point out that Mr Abduljawad was neither arrested nor charged in relation to any alleged offence. We apologise for any embarrassment caused to Mr Abduljawad and are happy to set the record straight.

**G2 page 4**

Slow-punching Dole exceeds voters' low expectations in a worthy television confrontation which changed nothing

A Clinton zinger clinches debate

Martin Walker in Washington

THE vast relief of the Clinton camp, and the concealed frustration of the Dole campaign, the dynamics and the polls in the US presidential election were left unchanged by the candidates' first televised debate.

town meeting, at which members of the public will question the candidates in a relaxed, floor-roaming forum. Each man increased his general favourability rating by the debate, which was the most serious and comprehensive on policy issues, and the least contentious so far.

Colombia death toll rises in clashes with rebels

The fighting is seen as a possible bid to revive peace talks, Mary Matheson in Bogotá writes

COLOMBIA'S leftwing guerrillas at the weekend added six to the death toll of more than 200 soldiers and rebels killed during the past five weeks during the bloodiest guerrilla offensive in the history of Colombia's 30-year civil war.

battle on August 30 when it ambushed an army base in southern Colombia, killing about 30 soldiers and taking a further 60 hostage. Even President Ernesto Samper acknowledges a crisis in lack of control.

Call — an accusation propagated by the army. But guerrilla experts say there is no evidence that the rebels traffic in drugs. But the guerrillas do extort money from drug traffickers and tax coca growers.



Nice guys... Bob Dole and Bill Clinton agree in their television debate that they like one another

Israel urges quick deal

Derek Brown in Jerusalem

THE Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, introduced a new complication into the feeble peace process yesterday by suggesting to the opening of parliament's winter session that the implementation of existing agreements should be suspended, once the issue of Israel's presence in the West Bank town of Hebron has been resolved.

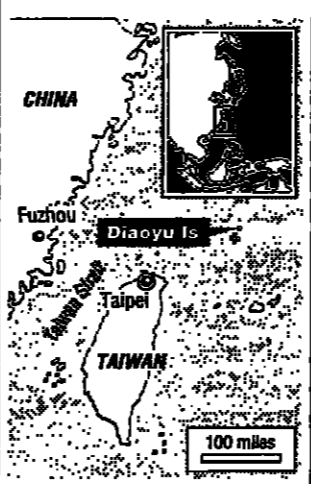
Hong Kong flags its Chinese nationalism

A Democratic member of the Hong Kong legislature, Tsang Kin-shing, led the dawn dash through the 50 boats of the Japanese blockade into the waters surrounding the island chain, which the Chinese call Diaoyu and the Japanese Senkaku.

Later the Democratic Party vice-chairman, Yeung Sum, said: "If the Chinese government refuse to take a tough action against the Japanese government, then it will be very difficult for China to reclaim sovereignty over the Diaoyu Islands."

The dispute has united Hong Kong politicians. Ronald Arculli, vice-chairman of the traditionally pro-China Liberal Party, said: "Hopefully the Chinese government will now take it up through diplomatic channels, and appreciate the feeling of Chinese people round the world."

Beijing has been conspicuously silent about the long-standing dispute. Nervous of any kind of popular demonstration and loath to offend a valued source of cheap loans, it has muted anti-Japanese activism on the mainland and offered only lukewarm support to the Taiwanese and Hong Kong protesters.



Catherine Sampson in Hong Kong



Protesters plant the Chinese and Taiwanese flags on an island claimed by Japan

World Cup ball still in the air

Jon Watts in Tokyo

FOOTBALL officials in Japan and South Korea are anxiously awaiting a report by the International Federation of Football Associations (Fifa) which, they hope, will provide guidelines for cohosting the World Cup finals for the first time.

headline "Now for round two — in the contest to host the final match". Sharing the tournament also means halving each nation's potential revenue. Last month, a Japanese delegation led by the president of the football association, Ken Naganuma, petitioned Fifa to raise the number of bids to raise the number of bids towards the extra costs out of the \$1 billion sale of television rights.

News in brief Rio massacre bodies dug up

Brazilian authorities exhumed the bodies yesterday of 19 victims of a massacre in 1963 so that they could be checked against human rights activists said.

Nobel winners

Peter Doherty, aged 55, from Australia, and Rolf Zinkernagel, aged 53, from Switzerland, were yesterday awarded the Nobel prize for medicine for the discovery 23 years ago of how the immune system recognises virus-infected cells that give hope for treatment of cancer, diabetes and Aids. — Reuter.

Ex-minister's trial

A judge in Paris yesterday ordered the former industry minister, Gérard Longuet, to stand trial over the financing of a holiday in Saint Tropez, but dropped a more serious inquiry into misuse of corporate funds. — Reuter.

Killer brew

At least 29 villagers in Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu, southern India, died after drinking homemade liquor over the weekend, the Press Trust of India reported. — AP.

Yao released

Yao Wenyuan, aged 65, a member of the "Gang of Four", has been released after serving a 20-year prison sentence in Beijing. — AP.

Suharto flinches as watchdog bites back

An official Indonesian human rights commission has turned the spotlight on its government, writes Keith Richburg in Jakarta

WATCHDOG Suharto formed the National Commission on Human Rights three years ago, few expected it to be anything but a toothless watchdog, more likely to cover up the government's excesses than to expose its wrongdoings.

streak rioting, which was sparked by a military raid on the headquarters of a small, officially sanctioned opposition party, the Indonesian Democratic Party. It seems the commission will blame the government and the armed forces. According to Marzuki Darnasman, a deputy chairman, its investigation has compiled evidence that government interference in the Indonesian Democratic Party caused the split that ousted its popular leader, Megawati Sukarnoputri.

When troops raided Megawati's headquarters and rioters took to the streets, Mr Marzuki said, soldiers and police failed to respond, either caught unaware or wanting the violence to spread as part of a larger agenda.

she said. "I think there was some engineering." Virtually no one here believes communists were behind the rioting. "In my opinion, the [youth group] is just being blamed," said a computer consultant in his twenties. "Young Indonesians are so Western, nobody thinks about communism anymore."

ment allowed rioting to rage unchecked to justify its current crackdown on political dissent. Megawati has said she believes government agents in the crowds started looting that devastated a stretch of one of Jakarta's main business streets. "It cannot be common people."

'spy' links

There is a lingering sense of injustice in Japan at Fifa's compelling them to accept the cohosting plan less than a week before the final vote was to be taken. "After six years of effort, it wasn't right for Fifa to casually break its own rules just like that," said Yoshiyuki Kawaguchi, goalkeeper for Japan's Olympic team.

Opera house

and La... their premiere... reduced to the Mafia itself.









Financial Editor: Alex Brummer  
Telephone: 0171-239-9610  
Fax: 0171-833-4456

# Finance Guardian

## Retail boom fails to boost factories

Richard Thomas  
Economics Correspondent

**A** SHARP fall in factory production has dashed government hopes that a retail boom would fuel a recovery in the stagnant manufacturing sector.

City analysts — who had expected a small increase — said the figures highlighted the growing chasm between a buoyant consumer sector and a gloomy outlook for industry.

Describing the overall trend in manufacturing as flat, ONS officials said production between June and August was 0.4 per cent down on the corresponding period a year previously — the biggest fall since May 1992.

But Labour seized on the figures to attack the Government's failure to build a strong export base. Shadow trade and industry secretary Margaret Beckett said: "The Conservatives constantly try to talk up our economic performance, but these figures show their claim to be making Britain the enterprise centre of Europe is hollow."

Production levels were subdued across the manufacturing sector, except for textiles, clothing and footwear firms which saw trade pick up as consumers forked out for summer clothes, the ONS said.

Oil and gas extraction dipped by 0.2 per cent over the three months to August as rigs were shut down for annual maintenance, while the output of electricity and gas suppliers fell by 3.2 per cent during the warmer-than-expected summer.

### Claim that Kleinwort Benson 'bowed to political pressure'

## Bankers to face inquiry by Imro

Patrick Donovan  
City Editor

**A** LLEGATIONS that Kleinwort Benson, the investment bank, bowed to political pressures by attempting to stop one of its senior fund managers raising investment questions about French and South African privatisation stocks are expected to be investigated by the Imro watchdog.

Complaints that Kleinwort Benson breached the requirement that it should maintain a "water-tight Chinese Wall" between its corporate finance operations and its investment business are contained in a formal internal complaint which has been seen by The Guardian.

The charge that Kleinwort Benson had put "undue influence" on its investment management operations is contained in a document addressed to the company's compliance chief Richard Hitchman.

Mr Horn warns in the document that it would be "extremely embarrassing" for the group if suggestions that the French Treasury put pressure on the Kleinwort Benson Corporate Finance Department, to prevent critical analysis of their policy by the London-based fund management arm of the KB Group, ever reached the press.

Dated September 11 1996, the document was sent by Mark Horn, a senior fund manager, who was sacked on Friday for failing to "follow management instructions".

He warns that it is "both unethical and illegal" for influence to be exerted by the "sell" side over the "buy" side of the business. "We are separate legal businesses with different clients and objectives. Indeed, our interests are fundamentally opposed."

A rival fund manager said: "Mr Horn is a first-rate player who really looks after his clients. These allegations must be taken seriously."

Mr Horn says that he was never told who made the initial complaints. But he added that his scepticism "was acknowledged to be well in line with the internal view of KBIM".

Mr Horn told the compliance department that his comments were "carefully considered and purely analytical".

Those with sharp memories may remember that the



BT and Bianca... EastEnders' Patsy Palmer, at Victoria for the promotion, with stylist Nicky Clarke

## Bullish rivals beat BT to the cut

Nicholas Bannister  
Technology Editor

**T**HE telephone price-war broke out anew yesterday as rival operators reduced charges the day before British Telecom's latest price-cuts came into force.

Energy, the phone operator owned by National Grid, led the assault by reducing the cost of weekday business calls to the United States to 10p a minute, claiming this was 44.9 per cent below the cheapest rate BT could offer.

Nynex CableComms said its customers would continue to save 25 per cent over BT's standard prices and that all its business customers would save money.

Mike Grabner, Energy's chief executive, said the company had been able to reduce charges because it had a modern network and had negotiated lower wholesale rates. It had applied for an international licence, following the recent change removing the BT and Mercury duopoly.

TeleWest said any BT residential customer who switched would end up with a lower bill under its new tariff structure, providing that the pattern of calls was unchanged. It aimed to maintain

an average 10 to 15 per cent saving over BT, even after taking into account BT's discount schemes.

Sam Howe, its vice president in charge of residential services, said that Ofel, the industry watchdog, had forced BT to reduce its prices.

Launched in September 1994, Energy now has over 12,000 business customers, including Boots, Reuters and Great Universal Stores.

## Store did not run aground — official

**Alders cannot sue over the QE2 accident, the US Supreme Court has decided. DAN ATKINSON reports**

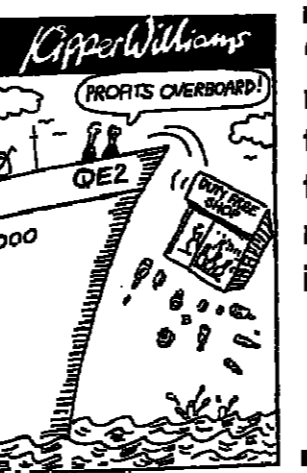
**A**UGUST 1992 was a month never to be forgotten. Europe was in crisis, sterling was plunging, Annie Lennox and REM dominated the charts and, in the early hours of the 9th, a British department store ran aground off the eastern seaboard of the United States.

Unable to sue the federal government for failing to show on its navigational charts the underwater ledge off the coast of Massachusetts it claims caused the whole unfortunate incident.

as Alders and its insurer Eagle Star told the US courts: "The shops could not sail without the vessel, and the vessel would not sail without its retail shops."

US law allows shipowners and companies suffering physical damage to their property to sue the government in cases such as this, Alders, according to the federal authorities, had suffered no damage to its stock or its shops.

That means Alders will



**'The shops could not sail without the vessel, and the vessel would not sail without its retail shops'** — what Alders and Eagle Star told the US court

### Notebook

## Industry data put Clarke on spot



Mark Milner

**W**HEN you're a pro-European Conservative Chancellor about to face a barrage of a party conference stuffed full of Euro-sceptics it is unhelpful to hear that Britain's factories are producing less than they were a year ago.

though it is by no means certain that they will command the necessary support. But the fate of Eurotunnel shareholders, including thousands of small investors in France, could have wider ramifications on either side of the Channel. It is not simply a question of direct investment. The need to change the balance of France's future pension provision from the state to the private sector will mean workers will need to be persuaded to invest their savings for retirement into funds which will, the authorities hope, provide the institutional investor base to boost the French stock market.

Hence, the Treasury rapid rebuttal unit was in full cry after yesterday's industrial production figures. Manufacturers, it said, were still trying to shift excess stocks while consumers were buying services rather than goods. Then the oldest favourite of all — don't read too much into one month's figures.

Bank regulators have tried, with varying success, to follow their charges across borders. Two of the snags they face are differing rules governing banking secrecy and the frequent inability of banking regulators in one country to run the supervisory rule over the foreign operations of a bank for which it has responsibility.

The Eurotunnel experience may also cast a blight over the funding of future high cost infrastructure projects. Both banks and shareholders will be warier (and wearier), especially of those projects where governments, as with Mrs Thatcher's determination not to spend a penny of taxpayers' money on the tunnel — make it clear the public purse is closed.

Yet the Treasury is right to be cautious. Something doesn't quite add up. If consumer demand is rising — as it appears to be — the upshot should be either an increase in domestic production or higher imports, and probably both. Yet manufacturing output is down and imports for Britain — are remarkably well behaved.

However, a working party made up of members of the Basle Committee on Banking Supervision and the Offshore Group of Banking Supervisors, which between them include some 140 countries, has come up with a set of recommendations which should allow for a freer (though scarcely free) flow of information.

### Eurotunnel blight

**E**UROTUNNEL's banks and shareholders will all feel the pain of the financial restructuring package announced yesterday.

The report shows the difficulties of stitching together a deal that will keep 140 regulators on side. Regulators in countries which don't allow outside supervisors access to depositors' identities should use their "best endeavours" to get the law changed. Some countries are even worried about regulators with such access which find breaches of their own laws (as opposed to banking regulations) blowing the whistle.

The banks will be left holding big chunks of Eurotunnel paper as well as a substantial tranche of debt paying below market interest rates. Shareholders are facing heavy dilution of their equity — though the banks have been more generous than early leaks of the deal suggested. They also face an estimated decade-long wait for a dividend which, given Eurotunnel's forecast track record, hardly looks the safest bet.

As its architects argue, the agreement, if it works in practice, will be an important step forward. But it also shows how much further there is to go.

### Former BET chief starts £3m High-Court claim for sacking

Financial staff

**A**CORPORATE high-flyer, who lost his job after a takeover, started a claim for £3 million in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Clark, 55, of South Kensington, is claiming he would not find it easy to obtain a similar post. It is the first time a former chief executive has taken a pay-off issue to court.

John Clark, former chief executive of services company BET, is suing Rentokil, the group best-known for its pesticides which bought BET for £2.2 billion in April. In an action that could turn upside-down the accepted doctrine of "heads rolling" after a hostile bid, Mr Clark is demanding £1.4 million for loss of salary plus damages for loss of pension rights, options, bonuses, car and chauffeur and health insurance. Rentokil, the court heard, agreed it should compensate Mr Clark for loss, but argued that — as he would easily find a new job — he was bound to "mitigate his own loss".

Mr Langstaff said Mr Clark was headhunted by BET in November, 1991. It was regarded as being in a bad way and potentially loss-making. Mr Clark succeeded in turning round BET. Profits increased by 22 per cent and 32 per cent in the last two financial years before he was sacked. Mr Langstaff said that, despite the urging of BET board members, Rentokil's nominees on the board insisted that Mr Clark should be dismissed or asked to resign immediately.

### TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 1.918	France 7.85	Italy 2.332	Singapore 2.157
Austria 16.36	Germany 2.2375	Malta 0.55	South Africa 6.935
Belgium 47.54	Greece 368.50	Netherlands 2.615	Spain 195.50
Canada 2.6275	Hong Kong 11.79	New Zealand 2.175	Sweden 10.20
Cyprus 0.7075	India 55.72	Norway 9.9425	Switzerland 1.80
Denmark 0.9575	Ireland 0.9480	Portugal 136.645	Turkey 130.583
Finland 7.09	Israel 4.98	Saudi Arabia 5.83	USA 1.5290

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Outlook/A great engineering feat has proved to be a financial disaster, says Patrick Donovan

# Shareholders pay price of Channel's £9bn black hole

**H**UNDREDS of thousands of small punters paid 350p a share when they bought into Eurotunnel nearly ten years ago. Last week they saw their shares suspended at 115p while banks attempted to stitch up yet another deal on the project's huge debt.

Today the share price could fall into a black hole as Eurotunnel is restructured into a commercially viable company.

Punters would be right to be angry about yesterday's agreement to reshape Eurotunnel as this will see the value of their shares diluted by up to 50 per cent. Small investors have been sold short by the consortium of 220 banks which for nearly 12 months has been trying to think up ways of helping Eurotunnel resume interest payments on the not inconsiderable sum of £3.1 billion.

But they should think carefully before they attempt to overturn this proposal when it is put to the vote — even though small punters are, probably uniquely, in a position to call the shots as they control more than 70 per cent of the shares.

If this had been any other company, Eurotunnel would have long ago been put into administration. For all the hype about its growing cross-channel market share, Eurotunnel will this year generate enough cash to service less than half its overall debt.

For investors, this would obviously have been unsatis-

factory as it would have resulted in an open-ended suspension of their shares. For banks, it was an unacceptable option because of the value of capital tied up in the operation and the problems of taking over such a complicated commercial undertaking.

So the compromise, which is to be put to shareholders for the vote, is a hugely complicated package which will have a very simple result. In effect, bank's are wiping out up to £4.7 billion worth of debt in return for giving themselves new shares — an equity stake which will, for the moment, dilute existing holdings down to 54 per cent.

First, there is a straight debt-for-equity swap of £1 billion worth of debt. Secondly, they have concocted a package of financial instruments which will wipe out a further £4.7 billion — leaving the overall £4 billion at a level which can (theoretically) be serviced through passenger traffic revenue.

And thirdly, there are prefer-



Patrick Ponsolle



Eurotunnel's French president, Patrick Ponsolle, announcing the deal yesterday

News in brief

## TI buys Forsheda for £189m

TI, THE engineering and aerospace equipment group, is to pay £189 million for Forsheda, a Swedish sealing systems and industrial products manufacturer. The deal doubles the size of TI's polymer technology operation and will create a £300 million business. It brings TI's acquisition spending to over £240 million this year. The Agira Group, which controls around 64 per cent of Forsheda, has agreed to back the bid. Forsheda, which has 1,250 employees in 13 countries, is well known in the pipes industry for high technology polymer sealing products. TI shares closed up 17p at 571 1/2p. — *David Huxford*

## Lloyd's deal with Arizona

LLOYD'S of London said last night that its £3.2 billion settlement of Names' claims had been accepted by Arizona — the last US state to put its name to the agreement. "This marks an end to our differences with US securities regulators," said Peter Lane, Lloyd's managing director for North America. All 2,900 US-based Names are now covered by state agreements. — *Dominic Webb*

## Labour challenge to BE

BRITISH Energy was last night challenged by Labour to recover firm dividend forecasts made during this summer's privatisation as the City braced itself for the company to unveil some 1,500 job cuts, perhaps as early as today. Labour's energy spokesman, John Battle, said the cuts could threaten output from BE's eight reactors and jeopardise dividend pledges made in the sell-off prospectus. The prospectus warned that dividends could be cut if station output or wholesale electricity prices fell. — *Simon Beales*

## Moss Bros profits hold

MOSS Bros group has maintained its profit margins despite what finance director Terry Donovan called a "quite fierce" competitive retail market. Announcing a jump in profits of 54 per cent to £4.94 million for the first half, Mr Donovan said: "We have not sacrificed our margins in getting a same-store sales rise of 14 per cent in the first half." — *Tony May*

## Luxury car sales soar

SALES of Rolls-Royce and Bentley luxury cars have shot up by 18 per cent in the year so far. Vickers, the defence and engineering group which produces the luxury cars, said it had sold 1,278 vehicles in the nine months to the end of September, compared with 1,082 in the same period last year. "There was particularly strong growth in the UK, where Vickers sold 555 cars against 485 last year, and in the US." — *Simon Beales*

## New group md at Chrysalis

THE Chrysalis media group has appointed Philip McDowell as group managing director in the wake of the resignations last month of two non-executive directors, Viscount Cleeve, a City banker, and Sir David Prattman, the film producer. Both non-executives complained about not being kept adequately informed about significant developments, including the decision to close its film division, and the failure to appoint a "heavyweight" chief executive. — *Tony May*

# Nissan UK's £59m tax deal fails to clear Botnar

Ian King

**O**CTAV Botnar, the former head of car distributor Nissan UK, faces the prospect of being arrested if he returns to Britain despite his company's payment yesterday of £59 million to settle an Inland Revenue tax claim.

Mr Botnar, who has been living in Switzerland since 1981, still faces an estimated personal tax bill of around £65 million, which the Revenue intends to pursue, and an arrest warrant issued five years ago remains in force.

Last night, after confirmation that all tax claims against Nissan UK had been dropped, Mr Botnar launched an extraordinary attack on the Revenue, accusing it of "terror tactics" and claiming he would not get justice in Britain.

He said: "The tactics often employed by the Revenue in England bear a striking similarity to those of the terror police in former communist countries of which I have had first hand experience."

Earlier, a five-minute meeting at the Revenue's special commissioners offices in London heard that the Revenue had received a £59 million payment over the weekend, settling all tax claims against Nissan UK.

After the meeting a Revenue spokesman said: "The dispute between the Inland Revenue and Nissan UK has been resolved, and all civil proceedings between the two parties have been discontinued."

But despite the payment, one of the biggest out-of-court tax settlements ever made in Britain, the Revenue insisted that Mr Botnar, who will be 83 later this month, would still be arrested if he returned

to Britain. However, in a statement issued last night, Mr Botnar said Nissan UK had not "owed a penny" to the Revenue.

Insisting he had made a payment to avoid "another five years of frustration, litigation and enormous legal expenditure", Mr Botnar said the small size of the payment, in comparison with the

## Botnar chronology

1971: Botnar establishes Nissan UK in agreement with Nissan.  
1973: Nissan/Datsun sales account for two-thirds of Japanese car sales in UK.  
1978: Nissan sales in UK top 100,000 for first time.  
1980: Botnar asks Nissan to build UK manufacturing premises.  
1982: Nissan UK manufacturing plant starts production at Sunderland.  
1991: Nissan accuses Botnar of breaching terms of contract, announces new UK car distributor network; Botnar loses High Court case and appeal against Nissan.  
June 1991: Inland Revenue raids Nissan UK's offices.  
November 1991: Botnar says Nissan UK will be wound down, leaves for Switzerland.  
January 1992: Inland Revenue secures arrest warrant against Botnar.  
May 1992: Two Nissan UK executives sent for trial.  
March 1993: Nissan ordered to pay Nissan UK £7 million by High Court.  
June 1993: Michael Hunt, former Nissan UK managing director, and Frank Shannon, former finance director, jailed for fraud.  
November 1993: Revenue applies for winding-up order on Nissan UK, liquidators appointed.  
October 1996: Nissan UK settles with Inland Revenue.

£270 million the Revenue had said it was owed, showed the Revenue's claim had been "spurious".

The Revenue's spokesman said: "He can put his views forward if he wants to, but it's not for us to comment."

"An arrest warrant was granted, and that remains outstanding."

The payment is the latest twist in one of the most colourful corporate sagas of the last decade. Mr Botnar, a Romanian businessman who had formerly headed the NSU car group, signed an agreement in 1971 with Nissan Motor Company of Japan to set up a car dealership under the name Datsun UK.

By the end of the 1970s the renamed Nissan UK was selling six out of every 10 Japanese cars sold in Britain and Mr Botnar suggested Nissan Motor Co establish a manufacturing presence in the UK as a means of penetrating other European markets. Nissan Motor Co agreed and in 1986 the first car rolled off the company's new production line in Sunderland, with the Japanese company paying warm tributes to Mr Botnar.

But in 1991, the Inland Revenue made a dawn raid on Nissan UK's office and Mr Botnar's home as part of an investigation — Operation Bluebird — into alleged tax evasion and Nissan Motor Co withdrew Mr Botnar's import and distribution licence.

By then Mr Botnar had left Britain for Switzerland, but in early 1992 a warrant for his arrest was issued. Subsequently, Michael Hunt, Nissan UK's former assistant managing director, and Frank Shannon, Nissan UK's former finance director, were jailed for fraud for eight years and 18 months respectively, but Mr Botnar has never faced any charges.

# Dixons veteran to lead battle to revive Owen & Robinson

Roger Cowe

**D**IXONS' veteran Egon von Greverz yesterday became the latest to take on the challenge of restoring to health Owen & Robinson, which owns the Foothold sports shoe chain and which issued a profit warning yesterday.

He has replaced Maurice Dwek as chairman of the company, which has struggled through the collapse of its jewellery business and a lengthy share suspension while administrators salvaged the rest of the business.

Mr Dwek has left to concentrate on his other business interests as the company warned that profits would not meet the City's expectations. He was appointed chairman for the second time in February after a financial restructuring which wiped out debts and left the company in a position to expand again.

The restructuring and the appointment of a new management team led by Mr Dwek allowed the company's shares to begin trading again after a seven-month suspension.

Mr Dwek, who owned 16 per cent of the company, had previously been chairman until 1992.

Former Amber Day boss Philip Green bought into Owen & Robinson but gave up after a brief spell in control, selling his shares as part of the restructuring earlier this year.

Mr von Greverz was with Dixons from 1972 to 1989. He said he would be conducting a thorough review of the Foothold operations.

The company has made losses for each of the past five years.

# Calor's bottled genie emerges at £250m

Tony May

**T**HE Calor Gas bottled and bulk gas supplier has agreed to a £250 million bid from its controlling shareholder, SHV, a privately-held Dutch food and energy company.

Calor shares rose 3 per cent to 300p, the level at which SHV is offering to buy the 48.6 per cent of the group it

does not already own. The rise took Calor shares, which have risen 10 per cent in the past week, to a two-year high.

The Calor board, whose independent directors are recommending the bidding terms, said they would include a special dividend of 40p a share to be paid by Calor, and investors would also be entitled to a regular dividend of 6p a share, scheduled to be paid on November 8.

The bid by SHV, which took control of Calor in 1988, was well received by analysts, although eyebrows were raised over the timing.

"The question is, why didn't they do it four or five years ago?" said Irene Hill, analyst at Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull. But she said the 300 pence per share now offered, compared with 200p then, was a "very reasonable price".

Bruce Evers, at Henderson Crosthwaite, speculated that SHV could have been spurred into action by frustration with the Calor management. He said: "Despite the recent restructuring moves, the group has gone nowhere in recent years."

Calor has suffered from its reliance on the weather-sensitive UK market, and began restructuring its British operations earlier this year.

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Motor Racing
Stewart signs a hot prospect

Alan Henry on Jan Magnussen, the young Dane told to stop smoking and get to the top

JACKIE STEWART yesterday signalled his determination to bring his new Formula One team into the big time by announcing that he had signed Jan Magnussen, the 23-year-old Dane who has long been tipped as a future world champion...



Perfect profile... the Dane driving an IndyCar this year with a career in the US in mind, until Stewart stepped in

mind that he wants to be a top-line racing driver. He's not a disciplined person, and all top F1 drivers have been very focused. That's the only issue he has to address. He's got terrific potential, but he's got to make his mind up that he has to be as fit as Michael Schumacher, who isn't smoking cigarettes...



Tipped for the top... Magnussen was the British F3 champion with Paul Stewart Racing

Racing
Helissio the best since Dancing Brave

HELISSIO'S five lengths victory in Sunday's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe has earned the colt the best Timeform rating since Dancing Brave took the Longchamp race in 1986. However, his easy victory was not sufficient to earn him the European performance of the year, which still rests with Mark Of Esteem after his win in the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot last month...

Sport in brief

Equestrianism: All four members of Argentina's Olympic equestrian team have been suspended for six months for "severe cruelty" to their horses in training at Atlanta. Cricket: Sussex have reappointed Alan Wells as captain for the sixth season...

Richard Merriweather in Commercial Union still held third place but he had narrowed the gap to Golding to 13 miles, and was himself 10 miles clear of Andy Hindley. Rugby League: Eric Hughes, sacked by St Helens in January to make way for Shaun McRae, has resigned as coach of Leigh with three years of his contract left to take charge of Wigan's Alliance and Academy sides.

over Poland in the World Cup preliminary tournament in Cagliari, Sardinia yesterday. Ireland, missing their captain Alan Down yesterday, have now won their group whatever happens in today's game against Italy. Hockey: Dan Clarke's hat-trick swept Ireland to a stylish 5-2 victory

Jason Weaver was given a four-day ban by the Pontefract stewards yesterday for irresponsible riding on Shirley Sue in the Trinidad and Tobago Handicap. The offence triggers a deferred five-day ban from August, meaning Weaver on the sidelines for nine days. The ban runs from October 16-19 and October 21-25 ruling

the jockey out of the entire Cesarewitch meeting at Newmarket. Weaver has been hard-hit by the Jockey Club's crackdown against riding offences and he fumed: "Any interference was minimal as far as the stewards are concerned for 47 days this season. They are trying to take away a man's livelihood."

Redcar with guide to recent form

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details including horse names, jockeys, and trainers. Races include 2.15 Dales Dash, 2.45 Souths Race, 3.15 Barwick Sprint, etc.

Warwick runners and riders

Table with 2 columns: Race number and details including horse names, jockeys, and trainers. Races include 1.30 Crispin, 2.00 Hazy Full of Soul, 2.30 Kewpaddock, etc.

Results

Table with 2 columns: Race number and results including horse names, jockeys, and trainers. Races include 1.00 PARADISE APPRENTICE, 1.30 HAZY FULL OF SOUL, 2.00 TATTERSALLA MAIDEN STAKES, etc.

Results

Table with 2 columns: Race number and results including horse names, jockeys, and trainers. Races include 4.00 BACING SCHOOL APPRENTICE, 4.30 NEW MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES, 5.00 MOP FARM LIMITED STAKES, etc.

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RACELINE logo with phone number 0930 1684 and other contact information.

Soccer

Hoddle relies on Pearce to keep clear of trouble

David Lacey on the coach's faith in the England defender who decided to play on

GLENN HODDLE believes that, with referees clamping down on tackles from behind, defenders will need to learn new techniques. Why, therefore, has the England coach persuaded the 34-year-old Stuart Pearce to come out of international retirement?

Pearce had decided in April that his England career was virtually over. The disappointment of losing a second major semi-final to Germany on penalties, even though he did not miss this time, was merely incidental to the way he was thinking.

"People used to get away with a lot, especially in the first 10 minutes of a game," the England coach reflected. "Football suffered, not just myself. Now the stricter way the laws are being applied has taken man-to-man marking out of the game. The days of Gentile are over."



Thank God you're here... Francis Lee gets his man at last as Steve Coppell arrives to take over as manager at Maine Road

Coppell saves Lee further farce

Ian Ross on Manchester City's relief as they finally find themselves a manager

MANCHESTER City's embarrassing search for a manager finally ended yesterday with the appointment of Steve Coppell, who is still revered across the tracks at Old Trafford for his exploits with United.

former international colleague, as his assistant. Neal resigned as manager of Third Division Cardiff City yesterday morning. Asa Hartford, who has run the Maine Road club as caretaker since late August, is expected to remain as a member of the back-room team.

that he was seriously considering assuming control of first-team affairs himself. Coppell's desire to move back into the spotlight saved the chairman from that.

when Coppell's Palace colleague Dave Bassett came within an ace of picking up the reins. Coppell, who signed a faxed working contract on Sunday afternoon after he had agreed the terms of a three-year contract, said: "I don't know if I can get City back into the Premiership this season but I do think the club is capable of bouncing straight back."

Coppell began his playing career at Tranmere Rovers before joining Manchester United in 1973. He made almost 400 senior appearances for United, winning 42 England caps.

Spencer loses struggle to face Estonians

Patrick Glenn in Tallinn

JOHN SPENCER looks certain to become the sixth player to withdraw from the Scotland squad for tomorrow's World Cup qualifier against Estonia. But the good news for Scotland's manager Craig Brown is that Stuart McCall's hamstring injury should not prevent him from playing.

a second yellow card in the 2-0 win against Latvia. "But he is also injured," said Brown, "otherwise he would have stayed with us. Gary is a terrific dressing-room and training-field influence and we would have liked him here, but it was best that he return for his treatment."

open play. But they are disciplined and determined and that can be awkward." Brown insists that he will play a three-man attack, a clear pointer to his expectation of spending most of the night in the home half of the field.



Poole... fair hearing

Pooler banned for two more games

Peter White THE Birmingham City full-back Gary Poole was last night handed a further two-match suspension and a fine of £1,000 as punishment for his push on the Huddersfield referee Richard Poulain.

diated ban on Poole after they received Mr Poulain's report. The player has already missed the Coca-Cola Cup defeat by Coventry City and the goalless draw at home to Queens Park Rangers in the league.

Birmingham visit Huddersfield tonight in a First Division game with Francis demanding a more hungry and positive approach. His team have not scored in their last three games, and he commented: "We have become difficult to beat because we are defending well, but we have not got the points I would have hoped for so far because we are not scoring enough goals."

Goals need to be coming from everyone." Meanwhile, Birmingham's owner David Sullivan backed down on his threat to quit the club, at least for the time being. He had threatened to leave after his managing director Karren Brady was committed to the Crown Court to face charges brought by the local council under the Consumer Protection Act.

Lowly Bosnia seek to banish demons and look to future

Julian Borger in Zagreb on the build-up to tonight's first meeting of two countries at war with each other three years ago

A TRUE Balkan morality tale will be spun out in Bologna tonight when Bosnia, still shell-shocked from the war, take on their more fortunate Yugoslav siblings Croatia in their first meeting as independent states.

In trenches than on soccer pitches in the past four years. "Playing Bosnia is like playing a little brother but there can be no experiments here. We need all the goals we can get," said Darko Tironi, a Zagreb sports journalist and newly appointed spokesman for the Croatian Football Federation.

side the running track area, but very little else. The training pitches around the stadium were all turned into graveyards during the conflict to accommodate the city's 10,000 war-dead.

lamata last month. Their squad has been pieced together from the wreckage left by the collapse of the former Yugoslavia.

Despite Bosnia's multi-ethnic aspirations, all but two of the squad are Muslims. The exceptions are Croats, Pavo Dacic and Vlatko Glavas, who have opted to play for the country of their birth rather than that of their ethnic kin.

nia's best-known striker Meho Kodro - once of Barcelona, now playing for Tenerife - causing consternation in Sarajevo's cafe society. Muzurovic has no apologies, insisting that Kodro is off form.

Stewart reprieve after referee admits mistake THE referee Paul Danson has admitted he was wrong to send off Sunderland's Paul Stewart in the game against Arsenal at Highbury a week last Saturday. The striker will now escape a one-match suspension.

Stewart, who had already been booked for hand-ball, repeated the offence but claimed it was because he was fouled by Steve Bould. Danson said: "It was a genuine misinterpretation on my part." And he has asked the FA to delete the second yellow card against Stewart from their records, although the first one will still count for two disciplinary points.

Pools Forecast

Table with 2 columns: Team names and predicted scores for various football leagues.

Bloom quits troubled Brighton

STORM waves continued to break over Brighton and Hove Albion with the departure yesterday of the director Ray Bloom. After 12 years on the board, Bloom said he was leaving because of differences with the chairman Bill Archer over the breakdown of talks with the consortium trying to take over the club, currently bottom of the Third Division.

Champions League places rest with United

ENGLAND could have three clubs in next season's Champions League if Manchester United win this season's competition. UEFA has clarified guidelines governing the 1997-98 tournament which would allow three representatives from one country to take part. However, for a trio of English teams to be involved United would have to lift the Champions League trophy in May and finish outside the top two in the Premiership. They would then qualify as reigning champions along with the winners and runners-up in the Premiership.

Stewart reprieve after referee admits mistake

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Stewart reprieve after referee admits mistake

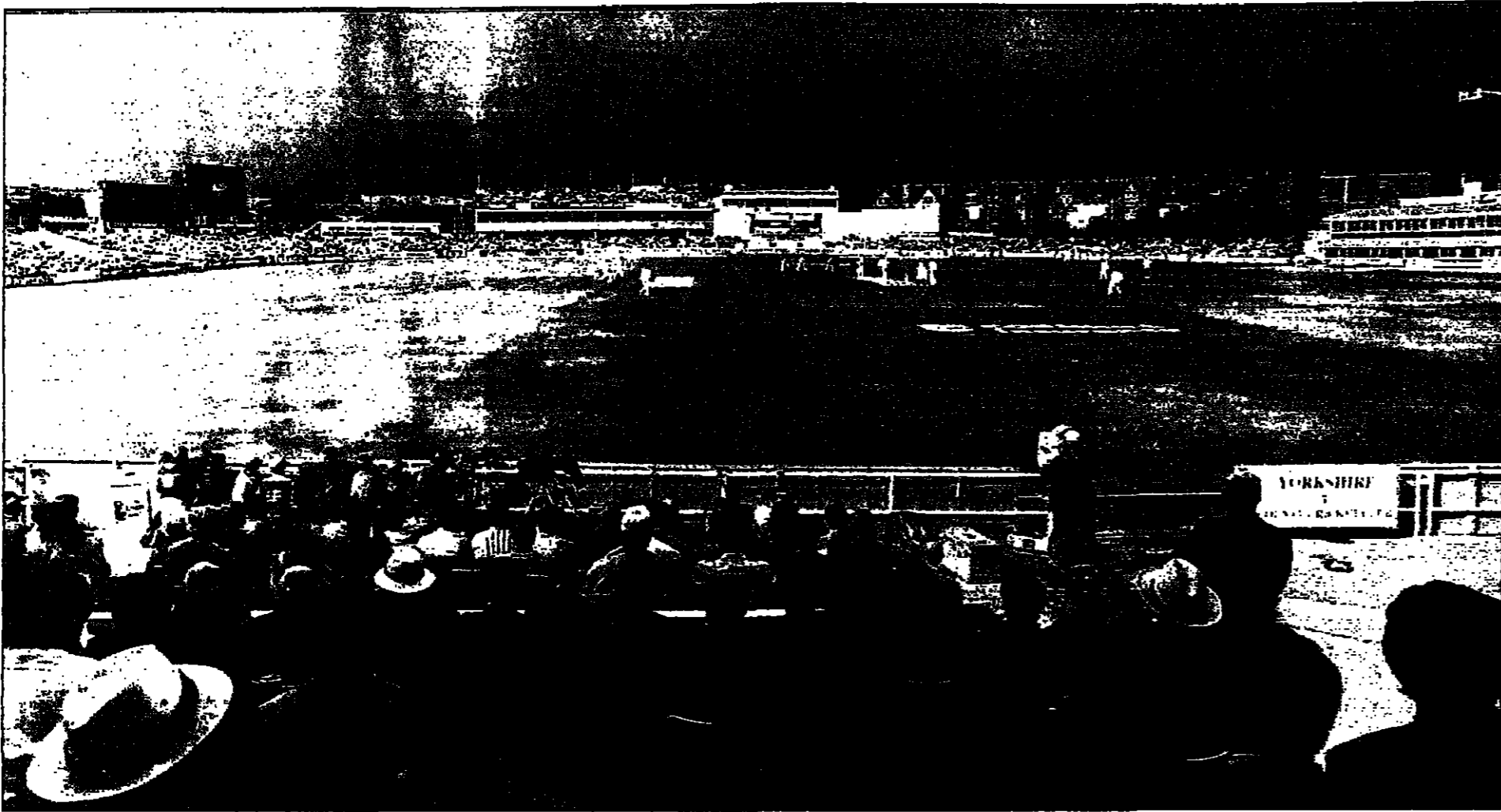
THE referee Paul Danson has admitted he was wrong to send off Sunderland's Paul Stewart in the game against Arsenal at Highbury a week last Saturday. The striker will now escape a one-match suspension.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring text like 'English say no to Wallabi', 'European Cup', and 'Saracens'.



# Sports Guardian

## WAKEFIELD TO BE HOME FOR £32 MILLION STADIUM



Goodbye to all this... Headingley will stage an Ashes match next summer but a new northern rival to Lord's will host Tests in the next century

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENNINS

## Yorkshire bid Headingley farewell

David Hopps says White Rose county's vote to break new ground will be acclaimed

YORKSHIRE have committed themselves to abandoning more than a century's tradition at Headingley and moving to a green-field site near Wakefield. The unanimous vote by the county's general committee, which is sure to be widely acclaimed throughout the county, could lead to the completion of an impressive northern rival to Lord's by the end of the decade.

Headingley's survival as a multi-sports venue was in question even before yesterday's announcement. Leeds Cricket, Football and Athletic Company, the owner of the ground itself and of Leeds Rugby League Club, is already deep in takeover negotiations which could see Leeds rugby league move to Elland Road, home of Leeds United.

Wakefield's city council has promised Yorkshire that they will not have to invest a penny in a development estimated at £50 million, of which the White Rose Stadium would be the centrepiece. The proposed funding package envisages a grant of £28 million, European grants worth almost £7 million (Wakefield is a European regeneration area), and £15 million from public- and private-sector investment.

Yorkshire would own a complex which would include its own railway station as well as a marina to offset the risk of flooding. Plans also include a cricket museum, hotel and catering facilities and, with the Lottery in mind, a large emphasis on community use with facilities for hockey, bowls, tennis and soccer. The Park Avenue Academy, responsible for producing the county's best crop of young players for 30 years, would also move to the 240-acre site alongside Junction 39 of the M1.

Wakefield faced a rival bid from Leeds city council desperate to retain first-class cricket, but their envisaged site at Aberford never promised to be as attractive a proposition. Colin Croxall, leader of Wakefield council, insisted: "This has to be the deal of the century... the finest cricket stadium on the planet. The Lottery bid is admittedly large, but outside consultants advise us that it meets the necessary criteria for approval."

Yorkshire's enthusiasm for leaving Headingley could quicken the ground's sale, with a supermarket chain rumoured to be among those interested. One point at Suzuka will put him irrevocably alongside the 24 men who have won the title since it was first awarded in 1950. And, if Hill wins it, the 25th champion will be worthy of his crown, in his own way.

## Hill's chance to dispel the shadow

Richard Williams on the point that could put the world champion among a very select band

AT MONZA she wore a crisp white jacket on race day, looking every inch a world champion's wife. But it wasn't to be, not that Sunday. In Estoril two weeks later she was in contention, as if to acknowledge the perils of hubris.

clams are more fragile. Mike Hawthorn, Phil Hill, James Hunt and Keke Rosberg. Hawthorn, the first British world champion, took the title in 1958, which should have been Moss's year. Phil Hill's title came as a result of another man's death. Hunt came down as quickly as he went up. Rosberg, like Hawthorn, won only one race in his championship season.

## Headingley highs

1888. Lot 17a, a part of Cardigan fields, is sold to the Leeds Cricket, Football and Athletic Company.

1968. Yorkshire win last of their 29 championships.

THIS is a complex matter, with its roots in the fact that the son's view of the father was rather different from that given to the rest of us. It is the reason that Hill is ill at ease in the public eye, and suspicious of success.

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## Gazza's coming back for more

David Lacey hears the England's coach speak up for Paul Gascoigne and predict that he has plenty left in the tank

GLENN HODDLE believes that Paul Gascoigne can continue to play top-class football until he is 35. This will be of considerable relief to those who, after watching last night's hour-long study of Gascoigne on Channel 4's Cutting Edge, might have doubts about the likelihood of his being able to do anything very much six years from now.

Gazza's Coming Home left viewers in little doubt that the Rangers and England player likes the odd drink. Three and a half years ago Graham Taylor stirred the back pages with his oblique reference to Gascoigne's "refuelling habits".

around any more. He's leaner, fitter and producing outstanding football for Rangers. "Maybe I'm lucky with Gazza. Maybe it's taken him this long to realise how good he is. If he believes time is running out, well it isn't when you have his ability. But he must look after himself. When a footballer gets to 30 so does his body. You must take care of things properly and not abuse it."

Huddle said talking to Gascoigne had altered his opinion of the man. "My eyes were opened," he said. "The Gascoigne I have spoken to is the Gascoigne I want in my side, and that's a great asset for English football. I loved to watch him play, now I like the man himself. He has a lot more to offer than many might have thought."

When it comes to their emotional health, many men prefer avoidance strategies. They're three times more likely than women to try and sweat off a problem with sport or some other activity, says BMCA President Andrew Marshall. Peter Baker on the parlous state of the British male

## Guardian Crossword No 20,778

Set by Paul. A crossword puzzle grid with clues. Clues include: 1 Across: He fought for macaroni? (5,8); 2 Down: One attending course, 'The Common People on the Reported State of India' (8); 18 Down: Masquerading, Nemesis is not a.k.a. Nemesis? (8).

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, mentioning 'Wednesday October', 'Tyran in Kal', 'Labour a', 'This', 'Ashdown a', 'age public'.